AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of generating a <u>function</u> ~~subroutine~~, the method comprising:

   a) displaying a field <u>on a client computer</u> for receiving a rule <u>that is to be input into the client computer by a user of the client computer;</u> ~~on a computer;~~

   b) then receiving <u>by the client computer</u> a rule <u>that was input into the client computer by the user of the client computer,</u> ~~by the computer,~~ the rule defining a premise and a conclusion to be drawn if the premise is true;

   c) then transmitting the rule from the <u>client</u> computer to a server;

   d) then storing the rule on the server; and

   e) then generating a <u>function</u> ~~subroutine~~ by the server that determines if the premise is true and, based at least in part upon the conclusion, outputting a first value if the premise is true and outputting a second value if the premise is false;

   f) then receiving a parameter <u>that was entered into the client computer by the user of the client computer;</u> ~~from the server by the computer;~~

   g) then transmitting the parameter from the <u>client</u> computer to the server;

   h) then <u>executing the function at the server thereby</u> determining, by the server, ~~based at least in part upon the subroutine and the parameter,~~ if the premise is true or if the premise is false; and

   i) then transmitting the first value from the server to the <u>client</u> computer if the premise is true, otherwise transmitting the second value from the server to the <u>client</u> computer.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the act of receiving the rule includes receiving the rule by a browser running on the <u>client</u> computer.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the act of receiving the rule includes receiving a Java equation.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the act of receiving the rule includes receiving a PL/SQL equation.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the act of receiving the rule includes receiving a Basic equation.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the act of receiving the rule includes receiving a <u>Virtual</u> Basic equation.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the act of transmitting the rule to the server includes transmitting the rule over the Internet.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the act of generating the <u>function</u> ~~subroutine~~ includes generating a Java function.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the act of generating the ~~function~~ subroutine includes generating a PL/SQL function.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the act of generating the ~~function~~ subroutine includes generating a Basic function.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising: verifying that the ~~function~~ subroutine is valid;

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein the act of verifying that the ~~function~~ subroutine is valid includes running the function ~~subroutine~~ through a syntax checker.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein the act of verifying that the ~~function~~ subroutine is valid includes compiling the function ~~subroutine~~ and determining if the function ~~subroutine~~ compiled without generating an error.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein the act of verifying that the ~~function~~ subroutine is valid includes compiling the function ~~subroutine~~, determining if compiling the function ~~subroutine~~ generated an error, and if compiling the function ~~subroutine~~ generated an error, then displaying a screen on the client computer that allows editing of the rule.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

displaying either the first value or the second value on the <u>client</u> computer.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the act of receiving the parameter includes receiving the parameter by a browser.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the act of transmitting the parameter to the server includes transmitting the parameter over the Internet.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the method further includes executing the <u>function</u> ~~subroutine~~.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the act of transmitting the first value includes transmitting the first value over the Internet.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Canceled)

22. (Canceled)

23. (Canceled)

24. (Canceled)